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XII. — Coleoptera, Heteromera (*excluding* Tenebrionidæ)  
*from the Seychelles Islands and Aldabra* \*. By GEORGE  
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[Plate VI.]

THE material reported upon in the present paper forms part of the collections made by the Percy Sladen Trust Expeditions of 1905 and 1908-9 in the Seychelles and other islands of the Western Indian Ocean \*. The twenty-six species of Heteromerous Coleoptera enumerated belong to eight families, the Monommidæ, Cistelidæ (= Alleculidæ), Melandryidæ, Œdemeridæ, Anthicidæ, Pedilidæ, Xylophilidæ, and Mordellidæ. The Tenebrionidæ (at present in the hands of Herr Hans Gebien) are not included. The collections examined illustrate the abundance of certain Œdemerids, Xylophilids, and Mordellids (*Mordellistena*) in the islands and the presence of two peculiar Melandryid genera in the Seychelles. A first set of the material, including the *types* of all new forms, will be placed in the British Museum.

\* Many results of this Expedition have been published in a special series of volumes of the Linnean Society's 'Transactions' (ser. 2, Zool. vols. xii.-xvii.).

*List of Species.*Fam. **Monommidae**.

- 1.
- Monomma pruinatum*
- , sp. n.

Fam. **Cistelidae** (= **ALLECULIDÆ**).

- 2.
- Cacoplesia viriditincta*
- , sp. n.
- 
3. "
- annulipes*
- , sp. n.

Fam. **Melandryidae**.

- 4.
- Stictodrya*
- (gen. nov.)
- longipennis*
- , sp. n.
- 
- 5.
- Mycteromimus*
- (gen. nov.)
- insularis*
- , sp. n.

Fam. **Ædemeridae**.

- 6.
- Oxaxis griseus*
- , Fairm.
- 
7. "
- lineola*
- , Fairm.
- 
- 8.
- Ananca aldabrana*
- , sp. n.
- 
9. "
- scabripennis*
- , sp. n.
- 
10. "
- submarginata*
- , sp. n.

Fam. **Anthicidae**.

- 11.
- Anthicus oceanicus*
- , Laf.

Fam. **Pedilidae**.

- 12.
- Eurygenius fragilicornis*
- , sp. n.
- 
13. "
- convexicollis*
- , sp. n.

Fam. **Xylophilidae**.

- 14.
- Xylophilus torticornis*
- , sp. n.
- 
15. "
- clavicornis*
- , sp. n.
- 
16. "
- seychellarum*
- , sp. n.

Fam. **Mordellidae**.

17. \*
- Mordella braueri*
- , Kolbe.
- 
18. "
- peregrinator*
- , sp. n.
- 
19. "
- disparilis*
- , sp. n.
- 
- 20.
- Mordellistena muhena*
- , Kolbe.
- 
21. "
- depressa*
- , sp. n.
- 
22. "
- partilis*
- , sp. n.
- 
23. "
- colea*
- , sp. n.
- 
24. "
- septemcarinata*
- , sp. n.
- 
25. "
- dirempta*
- , sp. n.
- 
26. "
- argutula*
- , sp. n.

Fam. **Monommidae**.**MONOMMA.***Monomma*, Castelnau, Hist. Nat. Ins. ii. p. 215 (1840).1. *Monomma pruinatum*, sp. n.

Elliptic, rather broad, feebly shining, nigro-piceous or black, at most obsoletely rufo-variegate, the reddish coloration sometimes becoming more distinct along the lateral and apical margins of the prothorax, towards the sides of the elytra before the apex, and on the humeri beneath, the antennal club, the palpi, and the legs in part also rufescent; somewhat thickly clothed above with minute, fulvous, adpressed, squamiform hairs, which are condensed into a small patch on each elytron at the base. Head densely punctate. Prothorax rounded at the sides anteriorly, closely, finely punctate, the anterior angles arcuately produced, the hind angles subrectangular. Elytra transversely gibbous

\* Not represented in the collections made by the Expedition.

before the middle, with rows of somewhat closely placed, rather coarse, shallow punctures placed in fine shallow striæ, the punctures becoming coarser and less approximate and the striæ obsolete on the gibbous portion of the disc, the interstices minutely punctate throughout, moderately convex towards the sides and apex, and almost flat on the disc. Beneath closely, finely punctate, the punctures on the anterior and lateral portions of the metasternum coarse and scattered; prosternal process moderately broad, the marginal carinæ parallel; fifth ventral segment with a very deep, bisinuate, transverse sulcus extending across the middle from the outer margin, interrupted in the centre by a dentiform backward prolongation of the anterior portion of the segment.

Length  $5\frac{1}{5}$ – $6\frac{1}{5}$ , breadth  $3\frac{1}{5}$ – $3\frac{4}{5}$  mm.

*Loc.* Aldabra: Takamaka, x.–xi. 1908 (*Fryer*).

Eleven specimens, almost certainly including the two sexes. Near *M. irroratum*, Klug, from Madagascar, but smaller; the vestiture finer and more scattered, not condensed into two well-defined densely punctate spots on the disc of the prothorax (well shown in Klug's figure); the prothorax more finely punctate; the elytra less dilated at the sides below the humeri, the humeri more acute, the seriate punctures smaller and shallower, the dentiform backward prolongation of the basal portion of the fifth ventral segment narrower and extending to very near the apex.

### Fam. Cistelidæ (= Alleculidæ).

#### CACOPLESIA.

*Cacoplesia*, Fairmaire, Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. xlii. p. 237 (1898).

The two species provisionally referred to this genus have the penultimate joint of the tarsi lobed and the tibial spurs small, as defined by Fairmaire.

#### 2. *Cacoplesia viriditincta*, sp. n. (Pl. VI. fig. 1, ♂.)

Oblong-oval, moderately elongate, subopaque, subglabrous, fusco-testaceous, more or less suffused with green or golden-green, the head and prothorax being almost entirely of this colour, the elytra more dilute, the antennæ and legs testaceous or obscure testaceous. Head closely, finely punctate, the epistoma separated from the front by a shallow groove; eyes large, prominent, slightly smaller in ♀, separated by less than the width of one of them as seen

from above; last joint of maxillary palpi rather narrow, elongate-triangular; antennæ slender, long in ♂, shorter in ♀, joints 3-11 subequal in length, 3-10 feebly subserrate. Prothorax transverse, rather small, arcuately narrowing from a little behind the middle to the apex, the base broadly subtruncate, the hind angles obtuse; the punctuation fine and sparser than on the head, the interspaces alutaceous. Elytra much wider than the prothorax, moderately elongate, subparallel in their basal half in ♂, a little widened posteriorly in ♀; deeply crenato-striate, the punctures closely placed, the interstices convex throughout and very sparsely, finely, irregularly punctate. Ædeagus of ♂ long, tapering, abruptly bent at some distance before the slender tip.

Length  $7\frac{1}{2}$ - $8\frac{1}{2}$ , breadth  $3$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm. (♂ ♀.)

*Loc.* Aldabra: Esprit Island, xii. 1908 (*Fryer*).

Five specimens, the two males having the ædeagus protruding. Allied forms occur in Madagascar, and it is just possible that the present species may be referable to one of them. It has the upper surface obviously less shining than in *C. micans*, Klug, *cærulans* and *cæruleovirens*, Fairm., &c., to judge from the descriptions of those insects.

### 3. *Cacoplesia annulipes*, sp. n. (Pl. VI. fig. 2, ♂.)

Oblong-ovate, convex, the head and prothorax opaque, the rest of the surface shining; head, prothorax, and coxæ, and the basal joint of the antennæ in immature examples, obscure ferruginous, the rest of the antennæ black, the elytra brown, the legs testaceous, with the knees, and sometimes the apices of the tibiæ also, black; very finely pubescent, the elytra almost glabrous. Head small, densely, rugosely punctate, the epistoma confused with the front; eyes small, strongly transverse, rather prominent, somewhat distant from the base of the head; last joint of maxillary palpi small, subtriangular; antennæ extending to beyond the middle of the elytra, joint 2 small, 3 and 5 equal, 4 slightly longer, 5-10 gradually becoming shorter and stouter, 11 ovate, shorter than 10. Prothorax transversely convex, short, nearly twice as wide as the head, rounded at the sides, a little more narrowed in front than behind, subtruncate at the base, the hind angles obtuse; densely, rugulosely punctate. Elytra convex, moderately long, about one-half wider than the prothorax, narrowing from the middle, the humeri rounded; crenato-striate, the punctures closely placed, the interstices convex, faintly punctulate. Beneath closely,

finely punctate. Fifth ventral segment with a shallow transverse depression before the apex.

Length  $3\frac{1}{2}$ –4, breadth  $1\frac{1}{2}$ – $1\frac{2}{3}$  mm. (♂.)

*Loc.* Seychelles: Mahé.

Four specimens, apparently all males, from the damp endemic mountain-forests above Cascade Estate and in the Mare aux Cochons district (between 1000 and 2000 feet). This species has the legs coloured as in *Plesia geniculata*, Klug, from Madagascar. It will doubtless have to be removed from *Cacoplesia*, on account of the small head and eyes, the small apical joint of the antennæ, the convex general shape, &c. It can hardly be referred to *Allecula*, a genus at present including many heterogeneous forms. Allied insects inhabit Borneo.

### Fam. Melandryidæ.

#### STICTODRYA, gen. nov.

Head short, small, obliquely narrowed immediately before the very large prominent eyes and parallel-sided behind them, the epistoma not separated from the front; labrum strongly transverse; mandibles small; maxillary palpi rather stout, the apical joint triangular; antennæ very short, slender, subserrate towards the tip; prothorax transverse, without trace of marginal carina, the base feebly bisinuate, with distinct foveæ; scutellum small; elytra elongate, much wider than the prothorax, subparallel, without trace of striæ, the punctuation uniform, the epipleura not reaching the apex; anterior coxæ contiguous, the cavities open behind; intermediate coxæ well separated; intercoxal process of abdomen narrow, triangular; ventral segments rather long, the sutures almost straight; tibial spurs minute; tarsi with penultimate joint and the one preceding it lobed beneath, the former broad, the claws feebly developed and appendiculate; body elongate, depressed, the integument rather soft, variegated with lighter and darker pubescence.

Type, *S. longipennis*.

This genus seems to be best placed near *Thisias* and various other forms provisionally referred by me to Melandryidæ.

The structure of the mandibles cannot be seen in the unique example obtained. The narrow, immarginate, basally foveate prothorax, elongate, subparallel, uniformly punctate,

fasciate elytra, smaller eyes, &c., separate *Stictodrya* from *Mycteromimus*. Fairmaire's Melandryid-genus *Diegoa*, from Madagascar, is compared with *Marolia*, and it cannot, therefore, be very nearly allied to the Seychelles insect.

4. *Stictodrya longipennis*, sp. n. (Pl. VI. fig. 3, ♂.)

♂. Moderately shining, piceous, with a faint æneous lustre, the antennæ and legs testaceous; variegated above with very fine, adpressed brownish and flavo-cinereous pubescence, the latter condensed into dense patches on the prothorax and elytra, forming irregular interrupted fasciæ on the latter; the head, prothorax, and scutellum densely, finely punctate, the puncturing of the elytra a little more diffuse. Head convex, transversely depressed in front, the post-ocular portion about one-third the length of the eye; antennæ reaching the base of the prothorax, very slender, joints 3-10 gradually decreasing in length, 2 short, stout, 3 about twice as long as 2, 9 and 10 triangular, 11 short-ovate. Prothorax transverse, a little wider than the head with the eyes, the sides rounded anteriorly and parallel behind, the disc obliquely depressed on each side, the small basal foveæ polished. Elytra about four times the length of the prothorax, the humeri somewhat oblique in front. Ventral segments 1-5 closely, finely punctate, simple.

Length  $5\frac{3}{4}$ , breadth 2 mm.

Loc. Seychelles: Mahé.

One specimen, beaten from dense forest-vegetation of "Capucin"-trees (*Northea*), *Roscheria*-palms, &c., on the summit of Morne Pilot, over 2000 feet, xi. 1908.

MYCTEROMIMUS, gen. nov.

Head short, obliquely narrowed before the eyes, the epistoma not separated from the front; eyes very large, reaching the anterior margin of the prothorax; labrum strongly transverse; antennæ short, slender, the outer joints subserrate, 11 short-ovate, simple; mentum strongly transverse; apical joint of maxillary palpi stout, elongate-triangular; mandibles acute at tip, toothed towards the apex beneath; prothorax short, closely applied to the elytra, bisinuate at the base, distinctly margined to near the apex at the sides beneath; scutellum small; elytra much wider than the prothorax, oblong, without trace of striæ, the sculpture consisting of intermixed minute and larger punctures, the epipleura not reaching the apex; anterior coxæ



small, contiguous, the cavities open behind and closed by the mesosternum; intermediate coxæ narrowly separated; intercoxal process of the abdomen rather narrow, triangular; ventral segment 5 simple in both sexes, 2 with a pubescent tubercle in ♂; tibial spurs minute; tarsi sparsely pubescent on their lower surface, penultimate joint broad and lobed beneath, the claws appendiculate; body oblong-oval, densely pubescent.

Type, *M. insularis*.

The single species from which the above characters are taken is nearly related to the holarctic genus *Mycterus*, some of the members of which have a non-rostrate head; but it differs from these latter in the still shorter head, the greatly developed eyes, the elongate-triangular apical joint of the maxillary palpi, the small scutellum, &c. An unnamed insect from Madagascar (represented by two broken examples in the British Museum) is still more closely allied to the Seychelles insect.

5. *Mycteromimus insularis*, sp. n. (Pl. VI. fig. 4, ♀.)

Moderately convex, shining, æneo-piceous, the legs, mouth-parts, and antennæ (except the intermediate joints in mature examples) testaceous; densely clothed with pale brownish or brownish cinereous pubescence (which almost hides the sculpture), that on the prothorax transversely arranged; the entire surface densely, minutely punctate, with scattered, irregularly placed, slightly coarser punctures intermixed, these latter giving an asperate appearance to the elytra when the vestiture is removed. Antennæ with joint 3 about twice as long as 2, 3-10 gradually becoming shorter and subserrate, 9 and 10 subtriangular, 11 short-ovate. Prothorax strongly transverse, the sides rounded anteriorly and parallel at the base. Elytra about four times the length of the prothorax, the humeri rounded.

♂. Ventral segment 2 somewhat gibbous in the middle anteriorly and at this place bearing a small, fulvo-pubescent tubercle.

Length 4-6½. breadth 2-2½ mm. (♂ ♀.)

Loc. Seychelles: Silhouette, Mahé.

Twelve specimens, only obtained by beating from the growing leaves of one species of endemic palm (*Stevensonia sechellarum*) in the mountain-forests: Silhouette, above Mare aux Cochons, over 1000 feet, ix. 1908; Mahé, near Morne Blanc, and above Cascade Estate, in both cases at about 1000 feet. The insect is probably pulverulent in life

like its Palearctic allies. The European *Mycterus curculionoides* F., has a similar tuft of hairs on the second ventral segment in the male.

### Fam. *Edemeridæ*.

One species of this family is quoted by Kolbe as having been recorded from the Seychelles by Fairmaire in 1893, but no name was given; the insect in question is doubtless one of those subsequently described by the French author\*.

### *OXACIS*.

*Oxaxis*, Leconte, New Species Coleopt. p. 165 (1866); Leconte & Horn, Class. Coleopt. N. Am. p. 405 (1883); Champion, Biol. Centr.-Am., Coleopt. iv. 2, p. 149, and Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. 1896, p. 39.

The insects placed under this genus have the mandibles uncleft at the apex, the right one, at most, with a short tooth before the tip. Amongst the ten species of *Ananca* recorded by Fairmaire from Madagascar or the Seychelles two, at least, *A. grisescens* and *A. lineola*, belong to *Oxaxis* as here understood, and *Lagria livida*, F. (selected by Semenow as the type of *Sessinia*, Pasc.), from Tahiti, is congeneric with it. Fairmaire notes the extreme rarity of the males of some of these *Edemerids*.

6. *Oxaxis grisescens*. (Text-fig. 1, ♂ genital armature.)

*Ananca grisescens*, Fairm. Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. xli. p. 119 (1897).

Elongate, robust, pale testaceous, the eyes and the tips of the mandibles black, subopaque, the anterior portion of the head shining, thickly clothed with very fine pallid pubescence. Head above and between the eyes densely, finely punctate, the punctuation becoming coarser and diffuse on the anterior half, the epistoma rather long; eyes very large; left mandible simple, right mandible toothed before the tip; antennæ nearly as long as the body in ♂, a little shorter in ♀, joint 3 distinctly longer than 4, 11 shorter than 10 and feebly constricted at the middle. Prothorax oblong-subcordate, densely, finely punctate, obsoletely, interruptedly canaliculate down the middle, the shallow groove terminating in a deeper, transverse, foveiform depression before the base, the disc transversely flattened or depressed towards the apex,

\* Fairmaire also mentions (Bull. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1893, p. xcix) a Cantharid and a Rhipiphorid from the Seychelles, but no names are given.



without definite foveæ. Elytra elongate, subparallel in their basal half, closely, extremely finely punctate, obsoletely bicostate on the disc from the base to beyond the middle.

♂. Sixth (hidden) ventral segment divided into two long, inwardly curved, sinuous, concave, forcipiform lobes, the small seventh segment very deeply emarginate, a long, slender, pilose rod extruding from the emargination; ædeagus extremely elongate, slender, thickened at the tip, lateral lobes long, ciliate, arising from a common stem, which is abruptly bifurcate from a little beyond the middle. (Text-fig. 1.)

Fig. 1.



*Oxacis (Ananca) grisescens*, Fairmaire, ♂. Gen. armature.

Length 10–12 mm. (♂ ♀.)

*Loc.* Seychelles: Mahé, Silhouette, Praslin, Félicité, Bird Island (1905 and 1908–9); Round Island (Mus. Brit.). The specimens were all found at or near the coast, never in the endemic forests of the mountains.

Fifteen examples seen, including a ♂ from Round Island, received by the British Museum in 1870. The very fine close puncturing of the upper surface, the long third antennal joint, the form of the mandibles, and the generally robust body, distinguish *O. grisescens* from the allied insects occurring in the Seychelles, whence Fairmaire's type was obtained. It is the only one to which his brief description applies.

#### 7. *Oxacis lineola*.

*Ananca lineola*, Fairm. Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg. xxxix. p. 453 (1895).

Elongate, shining, finely pubescent; pale testaceous, the

eyes and the tips of the mandibles black, the prothorax with a narrow median vitta and an oblong spot on each side (the vitta sometimes interrupted and the spot wanting), and the head in some specimens with a spot between the eyes, fuscous, the elytra fuscous, with the suture, three narrow lines on the disc (the outer one fainter and abbreviated anteriorly), and the lateral margin more broadly, pale testaceous, the ventral surface and metasternum in part infusate. Head moderately produced anteriorly, very finely punctate; eyes large, separated by more than the width of one of them as seen from above; mandibles uncleft at the tip; antennæ long, joint 3 longer than 4, 4-10 decreasing in length, 11 longer than 10 and feebly constricted at the middle. Prothorax longer than broad, moderately constricted behind the middle, transversely depressed anteriorly and also hollowed in the centre before the base; the surface polished, very finely punctate, with an indication of a smooth median line. Elytra much wider than the prothorax, somewhat attenuate posteriorly, closely, very finely punctate, without definite costæ.

♂. Fifth ventral segment excavate down the middle before the apex.

Length 7-10½ mm. (♂ ♀.)

Loc. Aldabra (1908, *Fryer*). Madagascar (Mus. Brit.).

Four specimens, one only of which (a ♀) is from Aldabra, apparently referable to *A. lineola*, Fairm., the type of which was from Madagascar.

#### ANANCA.

*Sessinia*, Pascoe, Journ. Ent. ii. pp. 45, 488 (1863) (nomen nudum).

*Ananca*, Fairmaire et Germain, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1863, p. 267.

*Copidita*, Leconte, New Species Coleopt. p. 164 (1866); Champion,

Biol. Centr.-Am., Coleopt. iv. 2, p. 144, and Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. 1896, p. 40.

This genus differs from *Oxaxis* in having both mandibles cleft at the tip. No type was given by Pascoe for *Sessinia* and his name cannot be accepted. The five species referred to *Ananca* by Fairmaire and Germain were all from Chile; the first of these, *Nacerdes pallens*, Sol., which must be taken as the type, proves to have bifid mandibles, and the name *Ananca*, therefore, must be adopted in place of *Copidita*, used by me elsewhere.

#### 8. *Ananca aldubrana*, sp. n.

Elongate, luteo- or fulvo-testaceous, the eyes and the tips

of the mandibles black, subopaque, the head shining, thickly clothed with rather coarse pallid pubescence. Head moderately produced in front, the epistoma rather long, coarsely, closely punctate; eyes large; mandibles each bifid at the tip; antennæ not reaching the apex of the elytra, joints 3 and 4 subequal in length, 11 feebly constricted at the middle. Prothorax considerably longer than broad, subcordate, narrow, densely, coarsely, subconfluent punctate, broadly depressed and subfoveate on each side of the disc anteriorly. Elytra long, nearly twice as wide as the prothorax, somewhat convex, closely, finely, scabroso-punctate, each with two distinct costæ on the disc and another near the outer margin, all three extending from the base to near the apex.

♂. Sixth (hidden) ventral segment divided into two narrow, curved, concave, forcipiform lobes, the corresponding dorsal segment similarly shaped; ædeagus long, rather stout, gradually widened towards the tip, the latter rounded, lateral lobes very long, slender, and feebly curved.

Length 8-12 mm. (♂ ♀.)

Loc. Aldabra (1908-9, *Fryer*). Seychelles: Round Island (Mus. Brit.).

Found in abundance at Aldabra, in several parts of the atoll. In the British Museum there are also two females and a male of the same species from Round Island. Very few males are contained in the long series before me; three, however (including the one from Round I.) have been identified, and their genital armature examined. The bifid mandibles, the densely, rather coarsely punctured, dull, subbifoveate, narrow prothorax, and the finely punctate, more distinctly costate elytra, readily separate *A. aldabrana* from *Oxaxis* (*Ananca*) *griseus*, Fairm. *A.* (*Sessinia*) *andrewsi*, Arrow, from Christmas Island, under which two species were confused by the author, has the terminal joint of the antennæ almost divided into two, the head much smoother, the prothorax non-foveate, and the elytra sharply bicostate on the disc, with the rest of their surface very finely, closely punctate.

#### 9. *Ananca scabripennis*, sp. n.

(Text-fig. 2, ♂ genital armature.)

*Sessinia andrewsi*, Arrow, Monogr. Christmas Isl. p. 107 (1900)  
(♀, nec ♂).

Elongate, testaceous or obscure testaceous, the eyes and the tips of the mandibles black, subopaque, the head and prothorax shining, finely pubescent. Head moderately

produced in front, sparsely, rather coarsely punctate, the punctures becoming more crowded towards the base; eyes large, separated by about the width of one of them as seen from above; mandibles each bifid at the tip; antennæ nearly as long as the body in ♂, shorter in ♀, joints 3-10 decreasing very slightly in length, 11 slightly longer than 10 and feebly constricted at the middle. Prothorax longer than broad, narrow, subcordate, rather sparsely, moderately coarsely punctate, the disc excavate on each side of the middle anteriorly and also in the centre before the base, appearing trifoveate. Elytra long, closely and rather coarsely scabrosopunctate, each with two faint costæ on the disc and another near the outer margin.

♂. Sixth (hidden) ventral segment divided into two, curved, concave, comparatively short lobes; ædeagus moderately long, gradually narrowed at the apex, the long narrow tegmen divided into two slender, acuminate processes (lateral lobes) from about the middle. (Text-fig. 2.)

Fig. 2.



*Ananca scabripennis*, Champion, ♂. Gen. armature.

Length 8-10 mm. (♂ ♀.)

*Loc.* Seychelles: Mahé, Silhouette, Praslin (1905, 1908-9). Christmas Island (Mus. Brit.). The examples from the Seychelles were all taken near the coast, not in the endemic mountain-forests.

Twelve specimens, apparently all females but one. Various female examples from Christmas Island placed by Arrow under his *Sessinia andrewsi* doubtless belong to this species. They differ from his type (♀, not ♂ as stated) in having the

elytra roughly sculptured and obsoletely costate, the prothorax subtrifoveate, the apical joint of the antennæ feebly constricted, &c.

10. *Ananca submarginata*, sp. n.

♂. Moderately elongate, narrow, depressed, shining, finely pubescent; pale testaceous, the tips of the mandibles, the eyes, an oblong spot on each side of the prothorax, and an evanescent submarginal stripe on each elytron (extending from the humeral callus to beyond the middle), black or piceous; the entire upper surface closely, very finely punctate. Head slightly produced anteriorly; mandibles each bifid at the tip; eyes large, separated by considerably more than the width of one of them as seen from above; antennæ slender, extending to a little beyond the middle of the elytra, joints 3-5 subequal, 6-11 distinctly shorter, 11 feebly constricted. Prothorax longer than broad, subcordate, slightly hollowed on each side of the disc anteriorly and also in the middle towards the base. Elytra comparatively broad, moderately elongate, subparallel, faintly bicostate on the disc for about three-fourths of their length, the punctuation a little finer and more diffuse than that on the prothorax.

Ædeagus (as seen completely everted) long, bisagittate at the apex, the outer portion of the sheath also sagittate and divided at the tip into two slender acute processes; lateral lobes widely separated from the base, extremely elongate, slender, and ciliate.

Length 7 mm.

*Loc.* Aldabra: Takamaka, xi. 1908 (*Fryer*).

One male. A rather slender form, with a spot on each side of the prothorax and a submarginal streak on each elytron infusate, the eyes widely separated, the upper surface shining and finely punctate, the mandibles bifid at the tip.

Fam. Anthicidæ.

ANTHICUS.

*Anthicus*, Paykull, Fauna Suecica, i. p. 253 (1798).

A cosmopolitan genus represented in all parts of the world.

11. *Anthicus oceanicus*.

*Anthicus oceanicus*, Laferté, Monogr. Anthic. p. 170; Fairm., Rev. et Mag. Zool. 1849, p. 452; Pic, Ann. Soc. Ent. France, 1894, p. CC8; Alluand, Hist. Madag., Coleopt. p. 487; Kolbe, Mitteil. Zool. Mus. Berlin, v. p. 27.

*Loc.* Seychelles: Bird Island, vii. 1908 (*Fryer*). Marquesas: Tahiti; Polynesia.

Three specimens are before me from Bird Island; this is one of two small coral-islands situated on the north of the Seychelles Bank, but which have neither the peculiar flora nor any of the physical features characteristic of the other islands of the group. Recorded by Pic as having been found in numbers by M. Ch. Alluand in the Seychelles in April, 1892, beneath seaweed on the coast.

## Fam. Pedilidæ.

*Eurygenius*, Laferté, Monogr. Anthic. p. 1 (1846).

The known species of this genus are mostly from North or Central America; two from Madagascar, however, have been described by Fairmaire, one from Japan by Lewis, one from E. Africa and another from Bengal by Pic, one from the Nilgiri Hills by myself, and one from E. Africa by Kolbe.

12. *Eurygenius fragilicornis*, sp. n. (Pl. VI. fig. 5, ♀.)

Elongate, narrow, somewhat shining, æneo-piceous or piceous, the anterior portion of the head rufous, the basal joint of the antennæ, the mouth-parts (the tips of the mandibles excepted), the humeri, femora, and the tibiae in part or entirely, testaceous; somewhat thickly clothed, the legs and antennæ included, with rather long, semierect, pallid pubescence. Head densely, rugulose punctate, obliquely narrowed behind the eyes, the latter extremely large, rounded, very feebly emarginate in front, coarsely faceted; mandibles entire; maxillary palpi with terminal joint stout, securiform, the two preceding joints angulate within; antennæ about half the length of the body, a little shorter in ♀, very slender, joints 3-10 elongate-obconic, subequal in length, 2 shorter than 3, 11 slightly longer than 10 and constricted beyond the middle. Prothorax narrower than the head (with the eyes), transversely orbicular, the narrow neck-like anterior portion rather long, the entire surface densely, rugulose punctate. Elytra elongate, much wider



than the prothorax, parallel in ♀, broader at base and somewhat attenuate in ♂; closely set with subseriately arranged, coarse, oblong, foveiform punctures, the narrow interspaces minutely punctate and here and there transversely confluent.

♂. Femora stouter than in ♀, the hind tibiae more curved; fifth ventral segment unimpressed, simply truncate at tip.

Length 6, breadth  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm. (♂ ♀.)

Loc. Seychelles: Mahé.

One pair, taken (4. ii. 1909) on the precipitous slopes of the peak of Morne Seychellois at an elevation of about 2000 feet; the specimens were obtained by sweeping a dense low growth of native ferns and shrubs (*Melastoma*, *Rubus*, *Senecio sechellensis*, &c.), among which were occasional *Roscheria*-palms and other small trees. The coarsely and closely foveato-punctate elytra separates the present species from the Madagascar forms. The single representative from the adjacent island of Silhouette cannot be treated as a variety of it.

### 13. *Eurygenius convexicollis*, sp. n.

♂. Elongate, rather narrow, opaque, the elytra and under surface somewhat shining; nigro-piceous, the epistoma and scutellar region rufescent, the two basal joints of the antennæ, the mouth-parts (the tips of the mandibles excepted), femora, and tarsi in part, testaceous; somewhat thickly clothed, the antennæ and legs included, with rather long, pallid, coarse, semierect pubescence. Head, palpi, and eyes as in *E. fragilicornis*, the antennæ a little shorter and stouter, about as long as in ♀ of that species. Prothorax distinctly broader than the head (with the eyes), much narrowed behind. Elytra broader than in *E. fragilicornis*, narrowing from the base, the narrow interspaces between the subseriately arranged foveiform punctures more rugose, giving a dull appearance to the surface. Legs stout, the posterior tibiae feebly curved. Fifth ventral segment broadly hollowed down the middle, truncate at the apex.

Length 6, breadth  $1\frac{3}{4}$  mm.

Loc. Seychelles: Silhouette, viii. 1908.

One male example.

### Fam. Xylophilidæ.

#### XYLOPHILUS.

*Xylophilus*, Latreille, Fam. Nat. Règne Anim. p. 333 (1825).

A genus almost cosmopolitan in its distribution. Three

species are represented in the Seychelles collection, all of them apparently being fairly common insects in the Islands. Mr. Scott notes that "many of them were swept from grass and other low-growing vegetation." So far as known, they are wood-feeders in their earlier stages. Owing to their extreme fragility, very few of the specimens obtained are in good condition. Upwards of a dozen species have been described from Madagascar, three from Mauritius, one from Bourbon, &c.

14. *Xylophilus torticornis*, sp. n.  
(Pl. VI. figs. 6 ♂, 7 ♂ antenna.)

Rather short, moderately shining, very finely cinereo-pubescent, black, the tips of the tarsi, and sometimes that of the eleventh antennal joint also, reddish. Head short, together with the eyes broader than the prothorax, finely punctate; eyes moderately large, occupying nearly the whole of the sides of the head, feebly emarginate, distant; antennæ (fig. 9) moderately long, closely setose, somewhat twisted, stout, joints 2 and 3 short, 4-10 broad, perfoliate, very strongly transverse, 6-8 wider than the rest, 11 stout, ovate, about as long as 9 and 10 united. Prothorax transverse, convex, rounded at the sides, closely, rather finely punctate, bi-impressed on the disc posteriorly. Elytra much wider than the prothorax, subparallel in their basal half, closely, rather coarsely punctate, obliquely depressed on the disc below the base. Legs short; posterior femora moderately thickened, obsoletely sulcate beneath; basal joint of posterior tarsi slightly curved.

Var. *a*. Duller, the punctuation denser and coarser.

Var. *β*. Shining, the punctuation more scattered than in the type.

Length 1-1½ mm. (♂ ♀.)

*Loc.* Seychelles: Silhouette [type]; Mahé [var. *a*]; Praslin [var. *β*].

Eighteen specimens—twelve of the form from Silhouette selected as type, two of the var. *a* from Mahé, and four of the var. *β* from Praslin, three of these much smaller than the rest. The examples from Silhouette were found in the forest near the Mare aux Cochons plateau, ix. 1908; the two from Mahé are from high elevations in the forests of Morne Blanc and the Mare aux Cochons district; those from Praslin were collected on Côtes d'Or Estate, xi. 1908. The females appear to have the antennæ a little less widened and the eyes rather smaller than in the males. A species

recognizable by the somewhat twisted antennæ, due to the joints 6-8 being more dilated than those preceding or following.

15. *Xylophilus clavicornis*, sp. n.

(Pl. VI. fig. 9, ♀.)

Rather short, feebly shining, piceous or nigro-piceous, the tarsi, the bases of the tibiæ, and the antennal joints 2-9 and the tip of 11 testaceous; the prothorax and elytra in fresh specimens variegated with sharply defined, irregular patches of very fine grey pubescence (tending to form an interrupted median and subapical fascia on the elytra), the rest of the vestiture brown. Head short, together with the eyes broader than the prothorax, densely, finely punctate; eyes large, occupying nearly the whole of the sides of the head, distant, almost entire; antennæ rather short, sparsely setose, joints 2-8 each longer than broad, 2 nearly as stout as 1, 3 more slender, 4-8 scarcely stouter, 9-11 wider than those preceding, 9 transversely subtriangular, 10 broader, strongly transverse, 11 stout, acuminate-ovate, about as long as 9 and 10 united. Prothorax transverse, convex, somewhat rounded at the sides, densely punctate, and with an interrupted arcuate depression on the disc before the base. Elytra much wider than the prothorax, slightly rounded at the sides, densely, rather coarsely punctate, feebly depressed on the disc below the base. Legs short; posterior femora moderately thickened, obsoletely sulcate beneath; basal joint of posterior tarsi feebly curved.

Length 1-1½ mm. (♂ ♀.)

Loc. Seychelles: Silhouette, Mahé, Praslin.

Found in profusion in Silhouette and Mahé, sparingly on Praslin. Most, if not all, of the specimens are from the mountain-forests, from a number of different places and elevations: one was taken from a rotten and fungus-grown fallen trunk of the endemic "Bois Rouge" (*Wormia ferruginea*). Many of these examples are now in bad condition, very few having the cinereous markings intact. Recognizable by the slender, nigro-clavate antennæ, with stout second joint, the variegate legs, and the densely punctured, cinereo-maculate surface. The antennæ seem to be a little shorter in the females. The variegate vestiture of the elytra is common to many species of the genus. The beautiful example figured was accidentally injured by the artist after the drawing was completed and finally corrected.

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16. *Xylophilus seychellarum*, sp. n. (Pl. VI. fig. 8, ♂.)

Rather short, moderately shining, nigro-piceous or piceous, the base and tip of the antennæ, the palpi, the base of the prothorax in the middle in some examples, the humeri or base of the elytra, and the legs testaceous, clothed with a fine sericeous pubescence. Head short, together with the eyes much wider than the prothorax, finely punctate; eyes large, occupying almost the whole of the sides of the head, separated anteriorly by about half the width of one of them in ♂, more distant in ♀, feebly emarginate; antennæ (♂) finely pubescent, long, slender, joint 2 short, 3-10 moderately elongate, becoming gradually shorter and wider, 9 and 10 subtriangular, 11 stouter, obliquely acuminate, nearly as long as 9 and 10 united. (♀) similar, but much shorter. Prothorax convex, broader than long, parallel-sided at the base, closely, finely punctate, with an interrupted arcuate depression on the disc behind. Elytra convex, rather short, at the middle about twice as wide as the prothorax, slightly rounded at the sides; closely, moderately coarsely punctate, obliquely depressed on the disc below the base. Legs rather long, slender; posterior femora moderately incrassate, simple in both sexes; basal joint of posterior tarsi feebly curved.

Length  $1\frac{1}{4}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm. (♂ ♀.)

*Loc.* Seychelles: Silhouette, Mahé.

Most of the examples were collected in the forests, but in Silhouette at least one was taken in the low country. Eighteen specimens, varying a little in colour, immature examples having the elytra paler. In this species the antennæ are moderately elongate in ♂, shorter in ♀, slender and very gradually widened outwards to the stouter apical joint in both sexes. The type of coloration is common to many members of the genus, some of which have peculiarly formed posterior femora in ♂.

## Fam. Mordellidæ.

## MORDELLA.

*Mordella*, Linnæus, Syst. Nat. 10th ed. i. p. 420 (1758).

17. *Mordella braueri*.

*Mordella braueri*, Kolbe, Mitteil. Zool. Mus. Berlin, v. p. 27.

*Loc.* Seychelles: Mahé (*Brauer*).

This insect is described as deep black and albo-maculate;

the prothorax with six spots—two, semilunate, on the anterior portion and four, confluent, near the base; the elytra with four spots—one sub-basal, median, one submarginal, posthumeral, one subsutural, a little before the middle, and one antepical. It is compared with the Asiatic *M. composita*, Walk., and the African *M. elegans*, Mäkl.

The unique example known measures 14 mm. in length.

18. *Mordella peregrinator*, sp. n.

(Pl. VI. fig. 10, ♀.)

Robust, elongate, cuneiform, deep black, the anterior coxæ, the anterior femora in part, and the palpi testaceous, the antennæ often fuscous, with the base testaceous; clothed with black and whitish or cinereous pubescence, which is condensed into the following sharply defined markings:—The head with a large patch on the middle of the vertex, and the prothorax with an interrupted median vitta and a large triangular mark on each side of it, infusate or black, for the rest whitish, cinereous, or flavo-cinereous; the elytra with three strongly angulate narrow fasciæ—one sub-basal, irregularly branching forwards (enclosing an oblique oval spot on the disc, an oblique humeral streak, a common postscutellar patch, and sometimes a small spot on each side of it), and one a little before and another just beyond the middle, these two connected along the suture—and a broader, simply arcuate, transverse fascia just before the apex, whitish or cinereous, for the rest black; the ventral segments at the base or laterally, the side-pieces of the metasternum, and the pygidium in great part above, also white. Antennæ slender, moderately long in ♂, shorter in ♀, joint 2 shorter and stouter than 3, 3–11 nearly equal in length, 5–10 serrate; last joint of maxillary palpi greatly developed, very broadly securiform, nearly as wide as the inter-antennal portion of the head in both sexes. Prothorax broader than the head and elytra, deeply bisinuate at the base, rounded at the sides. Elytra long, narrowing from the base. Pygidium very long, compressed, acute at tip. Ventral segment 5 hollowed down the middle posteriorly in ♂. Anterior femora and tibiæ simply pubescent in both sexes.

Length (excl. head)  $6\frac{1}{4}$ – $8\frac{1}{2}$ , to tip of pygidium  $8\frac{1}{2}$ – $11\frac{1}{2}$ ; breadth (prothorax)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ – $3\frac{1}{4}$  mm. (♂ ♀.)

*Loc.* Seychelles: Silhouette; Round I. Java; Borneo; Singapore; Philippines; Malacca; Ceylon, &c.

One ♀ specimen from Silhouette (Marc aux Cochons, ix. 1908). This is apparently a common species in Borneo,

Ceylon, &c., but it cannot be identified from any of the published descriptions. There is a long series of it in the British Museum from many different localities; and Mr. Bryant has recently captured numerous examples in Borneo. *M. mieta*, F., from New Guinea &c., is an allied form, and an unnamed insect from the Andaman Is. in the Museum collection is, perhaps, a variety of the present species. *M. composita*, Walk., has very different elytral markings.

19. *Mordella disparilis*, sp. n.

♂. Moderately elongate, rather narrow; black, the head (except a large transverse patch on the vertex, which is sometimes wanting), mouth-parts, joints 1-3 of the antennæ, the sides of the prothorax broadly, the elytra each with an oblique stripe extending from the shoulder to near the suture and a curved or oblique fascia just beyond extending narrowly backwards along the suture to near the tip (the latter sometimes nearly or quite obsolete, or represented by yellowish pubescence), the anterior coxæ, femora, and tibiæ, the intermediate tibiæ, the extreme base of the posterior tibiæ, and the calcaria testaceous or rufo-testaceous; variegated with cinereous, flavo-cinereous, and fuscous pubescence, the flavo-cinereous hairs mostly placed on the fasciate portions of the surface, the vestiture of the under surface almost wholly cinereous. Antennæ moderately long, slender, joints 2 and 3 very short, equal in length, 4-11 much longer than broad, subserrate. Terminal joint of maxillary palpi rather stout, subtriangular. Prothorax transverse, a little broader than the elytra, rounded at the sides. Elytra narrowing from the base. Pygidium about as long as the posterior tarsi. Anterior femora beneath, and anterior tibiæ at the base within, fusco-ciliate.

♀. Similar to ♂, but with the head, prothorax, and intermediate femora infusate, the antennæ a little shorter, the anterior femora and tibiæ without longer hairs.

*Var.* The oblique elytral fasciæ connected along the middle of the disc.

Length (incl. pygid.)  $3\frac{2}{3}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$  mm. (♂ ♀.)

*Loc.* Seychelles: Silhouette, Mahé.

Eleven examples; the six from Silhouette were taken in the high forest above Mare aux Cochons and in the low coconut-planted country near the coast at Pointe Étienne, ix. 1908; the five from Mahé were collected in the forest at the summit of Morne Pilot, over 2000 feet, in the Mare aux



Cochons district at about 1500 feet, and in the forest above Cascade Estate.

The eleven specimens vary in the development of the oblique testaceous elytral fasciæ, the posterior one being sometimes obsolete and in one example (♀) united to the anterior one. The dissimilarly coloured sexes were obtained in each island. *M. biformis*, from Central America, and the European *Mordellistena abdominalis* are parallel cases of sexual dimorphism. *M. disparilis* (♀) seems to be related to *M. homochroa*, Fairm., from Diego Suarez, but without comparison of types it would be unsafe to identify it with that insect. The variety with confluent fasciæ was found in a burrow in a stick in the jungle at Silhouette.

### MORDELLISTENA.

*Mordellistena*, Costa, Faun. Regn. Napol., Mordellid. pp. 16, 31 (1854).

A genus of world-wide distribution and abundantly represented within the tropics. One species from the Seychelles has been described by Kolbe and three from Madagascar by Fairmaire. *Mordella castanea*, Boh., from Guam, and various others from the adjacent regions referred to *Mordella* by the older authors may belong here. Mr. Scott's collections include about two hundred specimens, belonging to seven species. One of these insects was bred from larvæ found in the wood of *Colea pedunculata*. The appended table will help in the identification of these closely allied forms. The sexes have been identified in nearly every case by an examination of the genitalia of one or more examples of each species. The antennal structure is completely ignored by nearly all authors, presumably owing to difficulties of manipulation:—

Tibial and tarsal formula—4 or 5, 3 or 4, 2, 2; body uniformly coloured.	
Fourth antennal joint as long as fifth . . . . .	<i>mahena</i> , Kolbe.
Fourth antennal joint much shorter than fifth.	<i>depressa</i> , sp. n.
Tibial and tarsal formula—4, 3, 2, 1; head in ♂ ♀, and prothorax also in ♂, testaceous or rufo-testaceous; elytra cinereo-bifasciate . .	<i>partilis</i> , sp. n.
Tibial and tarsal formula—3, 3, 2, 0; fourth an- tennal joint short; body uniformly coloured, fusco-castaneous, robust . . . . .	<i>colea</i> , sp. n.
Tibial and tarsal formula—3, 2, 2, 0; fourth an- tennal joint short.	
Body uniformly coloured, fusco-castaneous, ferruginous, or testaceous above.	
Antennal joints 5-11 elongate . . . . .	<i>septemcarinata</i> , sp. n.

Antennal joints 5-11 not much longer than broad .....	<i>dirempta</i> , sp. n.
Body black, griseo-pubescent; head partly testaceous in ♂ .....	<i>argutula</i> , sp. n.

20. *Mordellistena mahena*.

(Text-fig. 3, posterior leg.)

*Mordellistena mahena*, Kolbe, Mitteil. Zool. Mus. Berlin, v. p. 28 (1910).

Moderately elongate, cuneiform, rather narrow; castaneous or fusco-castaneous, thickly clothed with greyish-brown pubescence. Antennæ filiform, very long in ♂, shorter in ♀, joints 1 and 2 shorter than 3, 3 in ♂ about one-third, and in ♀ one-half, the length of 4, 4-11 equal in length. Apical joint of maxillary palpi stout, securiform.

Fig. 3.

*Mordellistena mahena*, Kolbe. Posterior leg.

Pygidium long, acuminate, as long as hind tarsus. Posterior tibiae with 4 or 5, first joint of posterior tarsi with 3 or 4, and the second and third joints each with 2, oblique ridges.

Length (incl. pygid.)  $3\frac{1}{3}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$  mm. (♂ ♀.)

*Loc.* Seychelles: Mahé, Long Island, Round Island Félicité, Marie Anne.

This species was originally taken in Mahé by Brauer;

several examples were obtained by Mr. Scott in the same island in x. and xi. 1908 near Morne Blanc, not in the highest forests, but between 500 and 1000 feet. A few were collected at Long and Round Islands, small cultivated islets off Port Victoria, Mahé, vii. 1908. Several were also found in Félicité and Marie Anne Islands, xii. 1908, in a rather dry type of forest near sea-level.

Kolbe's description was made from a single example, and, as the antennal structure is not mentioned by him, it is not quite certain whether the name should be applied to this or the following species. The first ridge on the posterior tibiae and first tarsal joint is at most feebly developed and often wanting. Amongst the series examined there are at least two of each sex with the genital organs extruded, so that there can be no mistake as to their identification.

21. *Mordellistena degressa*, sp. n.

Extremely like *M. mahena*, but differing from it in having the antennæ less elongate in both sexes (in ♂ about as long as in ♀ of *M. mahena*), comparatively short and subserrate in ♀, joints 3 and 4 small and equal in length in the two sexes, 5 twice as long as 4, 5-11 moderately elongate in ♂. Posterior tibiae and tarsi as in *M. mahena*.

Length (incl. pygid.)  $3\frac{1}{4}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$  mm. (♂ ♀.)

*Loc.* Seychelles: Mahé, Silhouette.

Nine specimens, eight of which are from Mahé. All are from the mountain-forests. These appear at first sight to be females of *M. mahena*; but as there is no corresponding variation in the development of the antennæ in the long series of the allied forms from the Seychelles, the examples with a short fourth joint must be separated from the rest. *M. degressa*, therefore, is based upon examples with seven, and *M. mahena* with eight, elongated antennal joints.

22. *Mordellistena partilis*, sp. n.

♂. Rather short, narrow, convex; black, the head, antennæ, mouth-parts, prothorax, anterior and intermediate legs, and the posterior tibiae and tarsi in part, testaceous; the elytra variegated with cinereous and black pubescence, the latter condensed into a very large transverse patch at the base (not quite reaching the suture) and a common, broad, postmedian fascia (leaving a sharply defined submedian and apical fascia cinereous), the vestiture of the pygidium and under surface cinereous, that of the head and

prothorax flavo-cinereous. Antennæ moderately long, slender, joints 1 and 2 rather stout, 2 shorter than 1, 3 and 4 small, subequal in length, 5-10 longer than broad, subserrate. Apical joint of maxillary palpi stout, securiform. Prothorax transverse, rounded at the sides anteriorly, not wider than the elytra. Elytra relatively short, subparallel in their basal half. Pygidium long, acute, as long as posterior tarsus. Posterior tibiae with 4, first joint of posterior tarsi with 3, and the second joint with 2, short oblique ridges, the third joint also with an indication of a single ridge.

♀. Similar to ♂, but with the prothorax infuseate or black, the basal margin at most testaceous, the antennæ a little shorter.

Length (incl. pygid.)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3 mm. (♂ ♀.)

Loc. Seychelles: Mahé, Silhouette.

One male and four females—both sexes from Mahé, a female only from Silhouette. The Silhouette specimen is from near Mont Pot-à-eau, about 1500 feet; those from Mahé were all found in the forests above Cascade Estate at about 1000 feet. Easily distinguished from the other Seychelles forms by the sharply defined elytral markings, the single male with both the head and prothorax testaceous. The prothorax is more transverse than in *M. argutula*. The anterior femora are not ciliate in ♂.

### 23. *Mordellistena coleæ*, sp. n.

(Text-fig. 4, posterior leg.)

Moderately elongate, cuneiform, robust; fusco-castaneous or castaneous, thickly clothed with greyish-brown pubescence. Antennæ with joints 3 and 4 short, equal, 5 at least twice as long as 4, 5-11 rather broad, compressed, elongated, and 11 longer than 10, in ♂, 5-11 shorter and subserrate in ♀. Last joint of maxillary palpi rather narrow, elongate-triangular. Pygidium elongate, about as long as hind tarsus. Anterior tibiae slender, sinuous within. Posterior tibiae with 3 ridges—two very long and oblique, and a shorter apical one—and with from 3-5 stiff erect setæ along their lower edge in both sexes. First joint of posterior tarsi with 3, and the second joint with 2, oblique ridges, the third unarmed.

Length (incl. pygid.)  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -5 $\frac{1}{2}$  mm. (♂ ♀.)

Loc. Seychelles: Mahé, Silhouette.

Numerous examples from each island. Extremely like *M. mahéna* and *M. degressa*, but averaging larger in size, the

terminal joint of the maxillary palpi narrower and more elongate, the antennæ distinctly wider, with short fourth joint as in *M. degressa*, the posterior tibiæ strongly, sparsely setose along their lower edge, the third joint of the posterior tarsi without definite ridges. Three of the Silhouette specimens are labelled as having been bred from larvæ found

Fig. 4.



*Mordellistena colea*, Champion. Posterior leg.

in the wood of an endemic tree, the "Bilimbi marron," *Colea pedunculata*; another from the same locality is marked "bred from a pupa" found in same tree. All the examples are from various places in the mountain-forests, at altitudes ranging from about 1000 to 2000 feet.

#### 24. *Mordellistena septemcarinata*, sp. n.

Moderately elongate, narrow, convex, shining; ferruginous or castaneous, the eyes black, the under surface in part and the base of the pygidium black or piceous; thickly clothed with greyish-brown pubescence. Antennæ long in ♂, slightly shorter in ♀, slender, filiform, joints 3 and 4 short, 4 a little longer and wider than 3, subtriangular, 5-11 elongate, subequal, 5 about twice as long as 4. Apical joint of maxillary palpi moderately stout, subtriangular. Prothorax broader than long, not wider than the elytra. Elytra subparallel in their basal third, gradually narrowing from the middle, somewhat coarsely and not very densely

punctate, the interspaces shining. Pygidium long, becoming very slender beyond the middle, as long as the hind tarsus. Anterior tibiae slender, sinuous within. Posterior tibiae with 3, and the first two joints of the posterior tarsi each with 2, oblique ridges.

Length (incl. pygid.)  $3-3\frac{1}{2}$  mm. ( $\sigma$   $\eta$ .)

Loc. Seychelles: Mahé, Silhouette, Praslin.

Mahé; forest above Cascade Estate, and in the Mare aux Cochons district, in both cases over 1000 feet, also one specimen recorded from the low country; Silhouette, various places in the mountain-forests above 1000 feet; Praslin, one specimen from Côtes d'Or Estate.

A long series, mostly in very bad condition. Closely resembling *M. coleæ*, but smaller, narrower, and less cuneiform; the elytra subparallel and somewhat coarsely sculptured; the first joint of the posterior tarsi with two ridges only; the pygidium very slender.

#### 25. *Mordellistena dirempta*, sp. n.

Narrow, convex, shining; testaceous or ferruginous, the elytra often darker towards the sides and apex, the eyes and under surface black or piceous; thickly pubescent. Antennae comparatively short, joint 3 very small, 4 slightly longer and wider, 5-10 broader, subtriangular, not much longer than broad, subequal, 11 longer than 10. Prothorax, elytra, and pygidium much as in *M. septemcarinata*. Anterior tibiae slender, sinuous within, thickened towards the base ( $\sigma$ ). Posterior tibiae with 3 (the subapical one short), and the first two joints of posterior tarsi each with 2, oblique ridges.

Length (incl. pygid.)  $2\frac{1}{2}-3$  mm. ( $\sigma$   $\eta$ .)

Loc. Seychelles: Silhouette, Mahé, Praslin.

Silhouette, Mare aux Cochons and forest above, over 1000 feet; Mahé, high forest of Morne Blanc, and a specimen also from the low country; Praslin, Côtes d'Or Estate.

Described from about a dozen examples, other damaged individuals probably belonging here. These were at first supposed to be diminutive females of *M. septemcarinata*, coming as they do from each of the islands quoted; but, as both sexes appear to be represented in each series, this cannot be the case. *M. dirempta*, therefore, may be described as a rather short, small form of *M. septemcarinata*, with the antennal joints 5-10 subserrate and but little longer than broad.

#### 26. *Mordellistena argutula*, sp. n.

$\sigma$ . Narrow, moderately elongate, convex; black, the head (a large transverse patch of variable extent on the vertex



excepted), mouth-parts, basal joints of the antennæ. anterior coxæ, femora, and tibiæ, and calcaria testaceous or rufo-testaceous; closely, uniformly fusco-cinereo-pubescent. Head very convex; antennæ slender, moderately long, joints 1 and 2 rather stout, 2 a little shorter than 1, 3 small, short, 4 subtriangular, 5-10 longer than broad, feebly subserrate; last joint of maxillary palpi stout, securiform. Prothorax moderately transverse, not wider than the elytra, rounded at the sides anteriorly. Elytra subparallel in their basal half. Pygidium long, acute, about as long as the posterior tarsi. Anterior femora beneath and anterior tibiæ at base fusco-ciliate, the latter sinuous within. Posterior tibiæ with two very long oblique ridges, in addition to the short sub-apical one. Posterior tarsi with joints 1 and 2 each with two oblique ridges.

♀. Similar to ♂, but with the head and the anterior legs in great part or entirely infuscate, the antennæ a little shorter, the anterior femora and tibiæ not ciliate.

Length (incl. pygid.)  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -4 mm. (♂ ♀.)

Loc. Seychelles: Mahé, Round Island, Anonyme Island, Silhouette, Félicité.

A long series, almost all from low elevations. In Silhouette a large number of examples was swept from grass in the low coconut-planted country near the coast at Pointe Étienne, 17. ix. 1908; a few were also taken near Mare aux Cochons. In Mahé specimens were collected near Morne Blanc, 500-1000 feet; on the marshy coastal plains of Anse aux Pins and Anse Royale; and a few from over 1000 feet in the Mare aux Cochons district. Examples were also found in two cultivated islets, Anonyme and Round Island. Félicité: six specimens from a rather dry type of forest near sea-level.

A small, narrow, obscure form, with the head and anterior legs partly rufo-testaceous in ♂, the vestiture uniform, the prothorax rather long and not wider than the elytra, the pygidium long and acute.

#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE VI.

- Fig. 1. *Cacoplesia viriditincta*, Champion, ♂.
- Fig. 2. *Cacoplesia annulipes*, Champion, ♂.
- Fig. 3. *Stictodrya longipennis*, Champion, ♂.
- Fig. 4. *Mycteromimus insularis*, Champion, ♀.
- Fig. 5. *Eurygenius fragilicornis*, Champion, ♀.
- Fig. 6. *Xylophilus torticornis*, Champion, ♂.
- Fig. 7. Ditto. Antenna.
- Fig. 8. *Xylophilus seychellarum*, Champion, ♂.
- Fig. 9. *Xylophilus clavicornis*, Champion, ♀.
- Fig. 10. *Mordella peregrinator*, Champion, ♀.